THE STATE OF EUROPE.

Frem Our Own Correspondent.

LONDON, Tuesday, Nov. 15, 1859. Among the English telegraphic dispatches you will find one announcing that on the 12th inst, the Federal Diet of the German Princes at Frankfort had referred the affair of the Constitution of Hesse-Cassel to a Committee, and that Prussia and Oldenburg have voted for the restablishment of the Constitution of 1831. Though this dispatch is not likely to attract the attention of the English papers, entirely ignorant as they are of German affairs, it is, in many respects, of great importance. To show this, we must take a look backward.

When, in 1814, the worthless Elector of Hesse was not only restored to his dominions, but rewarded by the Congress of Vienna for his obstinacy with several smaller counties adjoining his former possessions. all the old institutions of those territories revived, the different portions of the principality had different constitutions, and some of the representive assemblies had the right of voting and denying the taxes. The Elector William II. tried, therefore, in taxes. The Elector William II. tried, therefore, in 1821, to abolish the old institutions by a decree of organization, and to establish his own sovereign will, but the Courts of justice maintained the old rights of the population: the Elector could not succeed; and there were plenty of protests, and law-suits, and discontent in the country. The revolution of 1830 frightened at last the Prince out of his wits; the old "estates" of the different provinces were called together, and on January 5, 1831, a new Constitution was established by them and accepted to the Fleeter wheat that time solemnly cepted by the Elector, who at that time solemnly eclared "his heart-felt wish that this Constitution should for centuries remain the monument of the "sympathy between the Prince and peo"ple of Hese." So soon, however, as the
tide of reaction set in again in 1834, there arose
bickerings between the Ministry and Chambers, and the Constitution was practically perverted and made useless by Government intrigues. Hesse had notoriously the worst administration in Germany up to 1848, when again the Elector was frightened by the revolution, and in 1849 agreed to a reform of the Constitution, especially as regards the franchise. By the new electoral law the opposition got a majority, but when the revolution in Hungary was crushed by Russian intervention, the Elector dismissed his liberal Ministry, appointed the notorious Hassenpflug his Prime Minister in Pebruary, 1850, and thus put himself into open op-position with his Chambers. Extraordinary taxes were demanded by the Minister, and refused by the Chambers; the conflict became every day more Chambers; the coninct became every tay hore violent, the majority of the members of the Diet insisted upon the removal of the obnoxious Minister, and as their wishes were not regarded, refused to vote the taxes. The Chambers were thereupon dissolved and the taxes levied; but as the inhabitants offered a passive resistance to the illegal proceedings of the tax-gatherers, the country was declared to be in a state of war, and Austrian and Bavarian troops marched in to uphold the authori-ty of the Elector. Prussia seemed to take the ty of the Elector. Prussia seemed to take the side of the Hessian people, but only for a moment; the crazy King sent his Minister, Manteufel, to Olmutz (29th Nov., 1850), and submitted to the dictation of Prince Schwarzenberg, leaving the Hessian affairs, as well as those of Schleswig-Holstein to the decision of the Austrian Cabinet. After some entirely German proceedings, commissions, reports, provisional decrees, and organizations, not only the reform of 1849, but all the Constitution of 1831 was declared illegal and abolished, and a new Constitution introduced on the 13th of April, 1852. The country remained for several years under martial law, but the population remained faithful to the principles of liberty, protested, petitioned, and af-ter seven years struggles once more brought the ter seven years' struggles once more brought the affair before the Diet of Frankfort, insisting upon the right to retain the Constitution of 1831. the right to retain the Constitution of 1831. Austria, of course, maintains the ordinances of 1852, and the absolute authority of the Prince, but Prussia, as we see by the telegraphic dispatch, bolder than in 1850, raises her voice on behalf of the rights of the people. The fact that she is seconded by Oldenburg, the vassal of Russia, throws some light upon the recent interview between the Czar and Prince Regent at Breslau. Their alliance cannot be friendly to Austria, since the Hessian affair is now all ever Carrany taken for the trial of strength. be friendly to Austria, since the Ressian affair is now all over Germany taken for the trial of strength between Austria and Prussia; it decides the pre-ponderance either of Prussia and Constitutionalism, or of Austria and Despotism. As to the final de-cision, it looms still in the future, since the forms of the Frankfort Diet are so cumbersome that it is scarcely possible to see this old pending political suit finally set at rest within a year, unless Prussia should like to precipitate it in order to establish her should have to precipitate it in order to exclusion have to precipitate it in order to exclusion as leadership in Germany. The Austrian papers speak already of this question as of one involving not only the highest interests, but all the future of Germany; but the foreign press, unaccustomed to German sluggishness, scarcely notices this important phase of the fatherland.

The Italian question progresses more rapidly and more favorably. The four provinces steadily continue their work of amalgamation; steadily continue their work of amalgamation; their army is organized upon the Sardinian model; the old money of the Archdukes is called in, and exchanged for the new currency, coined according to the French system, which was introduced long ago in Sardinia, and marked by the head of Victor Emanuel as King elect of Central Italy. The last step for the complete fusion of Tuscany and the other provinces, designated by the common name of Amilia, remained to be taken; a Regency was appointed by the King Victor Emanuel. Many were the diplomatic difficulties raised against such a step, which cannot fail to precipitate matters and to prejudge the action fail to precipitate matters and to prejudge the action of the Congress in an anti-Austrian spirit. Accordingly, the Prince of Carignan, elected by the Constituent Assemblies of the four provinces, did not accept the Regency offered to him, but in the name of the King, he designated the Chevalier Buoncompagnic as Regent of Central Italy, who at once accepted the mission and set out to assume the givernment. mission, and set out to assume the government. Victor Emanuel thus, for the first time, acted as real sovereign, since Buoncompagnei's Regency owes its origin not to popular election, but strictly to delegation from the King, who toward Napoleon and Francis Joseph has the plausible answer that, had he acted otherwise, either Cavour or Garibaldi would have been elected, and that the Regency of either of the two would have been aggressive—a signal for revolutionary outbreaks in Umbria and the Marches.

TROUBLE IN GERMANY. From an Occasional Correspondent.

Paris, Nov. 15, 1859. There is now on the tapis a querelle allemande,

which, diminutive as it must appear to the general public, may, nevertheless, result in a German, and even a European, catastrophe. The little country which affords the pretext of quarrel to the ruling Tentonic Powers has acquired a bad renown in the history of the United States. It is generally known that of the thousands of drilled slaves whom England bought in Germany, to ship over the Atlantic and let loose on ber revolted Colonies, the principal stock was supplied from Hesse-Cassel, where a paternal Arch-elector used to derive revenue from the exchange of British gold for his faithful yeomen. Ever since that memorable epoch, the relations between the Arch-electors and their subjects seem to have grown progressively inimical, until, in 1830, the French Revolution of July gave the in 1830, the French Revolution of July gave the signal to a revolution in Hesse-Cassel. That revolution was accretly festered by the present Archelector, who felt rather auxious to share with his beloved father the responsibilities of supreme power. The little revolution paved the way to the Hessian Constitution of Jan. 5, 1831, which affords now the grand battle-cry between Austria and Prussia; had, in 1850, driven them to the bloodless battle of Bronsell; and, circumstances helping, may soon induce Louis Bonaparte to study the "German question" after he has contrived to make a bore of the "Italian question." To explain the present conflict, a short sketch of the Hessian Constitution of 1831, of the metamorphoses it underwent, flict, a short sketch of the Hessian Constitu-tion of 1831, of the metamorphoses it underwent, and the events which mixed up with its fate the

rival claims of Austria and Prussia, may prove op-With the exception of the method of election it

With the exception of the method of election its ordains, that is, the election of representatives by the old estates (nobles, citizens, peasants), the Hessian Constitution of 1831 may be regarded as the most liberal fundamental law ever proclaimed in Europe. There is no other Constitution which restrains the powers of the executive within limits so narrow, makes the Administration more dependent on the Legislature, and confides such a surreme control to the judicial benches. such a supreme control to the judicial benches. account for this strange fact, it may be said that the Hessian revolution of 1831 was, in point of fact, a revolution against the Prince on the part of the lawyers, the civil service and the military officers acting in harmony with the malcontents of all "estates." By the first paragraph, every Hessian prince is excluded from the succession to the throne, who should deline taking an oath to the Constitution. The law on Ministerial responsibility, so far from being an unmeaning phrase, enables the representatives to remove, through the State tribunal, every Minister declared guilty of having even misinterpreted any resolution of the Legislature. The Prince is divested of the right of grace. He enjoys neither the privilege of pensioning or removing the members of the Administration against their will, there being always open to them an appeal to the courts of law.

The latter are invested with the right of final decision in all questions of bureaucratic discipline. The Representative Chamber selects out of its members a permanent committee, forming a sort of Arcopagus, watching and controlling the Government, and impeaching the officials for violation of the Constitution, no exception being granica on behalf of orders received by subalterns from their superiors in rank. In this way, the members of the bureaucracy were emancipated from the Crown. On the other hand, the Courts of law, empowered to decide definitively upon all the acts of the Executive, were rendered omnipotent. Communal Councillors, nominated by popular election, had to administer not only the local, but also the general police. The military officers, before entering the service, are bound by oath to obedience to the Constitution, and, in all respects, enjoy the same privileges against the Crown as the civilians. The representation, consisting of one single Chamber, possesses the right of stopping all taxes, imposts and duties, on every conflict with the executive.

Such is the Constitution of 1831 for Hesse-Cassel, which the Arch-elector, William II., the father of

the now reigning Prince, proclaimed, "in perfect "agreement with his estates," and which "he hoped would still, in distant centuries, flourish as a "solid monument of the harmony between the "sovereign and his subjects." A draft of the Con-stitution was then, on the part of the Government, communicated to the German Diet, which, if it communicated to the German Diet, which, if it gave no guaranty, seemed to accept it as a fait accompli. It could be foreseen that despite all pia desideria, the Constitutional machinery was not to run smoothly in Hesse-Cassel. From 1832 to 1848 there sat not less than ten legislatures, of which not two contrived to last their natural terms of life. The revolution of 1848 and 1849 impregnated the Constitution of 1831 with a more democratic spirit by abolishing the election by estates, by putting the nomination of the members of the Supreme Court into the hands of the Legislature, and, lastly, by taking out of the hands of the Prince the supreme control of the army, and making it over to the Minister of War, a personage responsible to the representatives of

Legislature, elected according to the new electoral

law-a general reaction had already

In 1849-on the meeting of the first Hessian

upon Germany; but, nevertheless, things were still in a state of fermentation. The old German Diet had been washed away by the revolutionary waves, while the German National Assembly, and its mock Executive, had been laid low at the point of the bayonet. So there no longer existed a center of the whole German Federation. Under these circumstances, Austria demanded the restoration of the old Diet at Frankfort, where its influence had always been paramount, while Prussia wanted to form a Northern Union, for her own use and under her own control. Austria, backed by the four German Kingdoms and Baden, contrived, in fact, to gather around her in Frankfort-on-the-Main the to gather around her in Frankfort-on-the-Main the relics of the old German Diet, while Prussia made a weak attempt at holding a Union-Diet at Erfurt, with some of the smaller States. Hesse-Cassel, under the direction of its liberal Legislature, was, of course, foremost among the opponents of Austria, and the partisans of Prusia. As soon, however, as the Arch-elector had ascertained that Austria was backed by Russia, and was likely to win the race, he threw off the Prussian Union, installed a reactionary Ministry with the ill-famed Hassenpflug at its head, dissolved the opposing Legislature, which had refused to grant taxes, and, having vainly tried to raise the taxes on his own authority, finding no support in the ranks of the army, the bureaucracy and the law courts, declared Hesse-Cassel in a state of siege. He had taken the good precaution of run-ning away and resorting to Frankfort-on-the-Main, there to live under the immediate protection of Austria. Austria, in the name of the old Diet, restored by herself, dispatched a federal corps on the errand of putting down the Hessian Constitution, and raising up the throne of the Arch-elector. Prussia, on her part, was forced to declare for the Hessian Constitution against the Arch-elector, in order to maintain her own protest against the revival of the German Diet, and her attempt of establishing a Northern Union under her own auspices. Thus the Hessian Constitution was converted into a battle-cry between Austria and Prussia. Things drew meanwhile to a crisis. The vanguards of the Federal and the Prussian armies confronted each other at Bronsell, but only to sound the retreat on both sides. The President of the Prussian Ministry, Herr von Mannteufel, met the Prince of Schwarzenberg, the Austrian Minister, at Olmütz, on the 29th of November, 1850, to resign into his bands all Prussian claims to a policy of her own with regard to the Diet, Hesse-Cassel and Schleswig-Holstein. Prussia returned to the Diet a downcast and penitent sinner. Her humiliation was embit-tered by the triumphant march of an Austrian army to the coasts of the Northern Sea. Hessian Constitution of IS31 was of course abolished without further ado, to be replaced at first by martial law, and subsequently, in 1852, by a most reactionary Constitution, hatched out by Hassenpflug, doctored by the Elector, and emendated and sauctioned by the German Diet. This Constitution of 1852 formed, then, the standing topic of quarrel between the country and the Elector—sill attempts at appealing the country and the Elector attempts at conciliation proving futile. quent movements in Germany, were considered by the Prussian Government to afford the best opportunity of revenge for the defeat of Olmütz, and the renewal of its old feud with Austria. Prus-sia knows that Russia, who, in 1850, turned the balance on the side of Austria, will this time move in the opposite direction. Till now nothing has been exchanged between the two rivals except paper bullets. That the Hessian Constitutions 1831 and 1852 form only the pretext of their fight, is shown by the simple circumstance that Austria declares for a modification of the Constitution of 1852, in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution of 1831, while Prussia insists on the restoration of the Constitution of 1831, after its having been remodeled in conformity to the general (monarchic) principles of the German Diet. The people and the Chambers in Hesse-Cassel, rely-

-A beautiful and accomplished young lady says The Norfolk Argus), passed through this city, last week, en route for St. Louis, where she was being sent by express. She was from Paris; and, being unable to speak our "barbarous lingo," her friends had adopted this method of sending her to her destination. She was regularly entered upon the "way bill," and freight paid all the way through.

managed by interested counselors from without, may end in a German civil war, if the German peo-ple turn not, at the opportune moment, against "both their houses."

monarchie; copie and the Chambers in Hesse-Casse, copie and the Chambers in Hesse-Casse, Prussian support, ask for the restoration of Prussian support, ask for the restoration of Prussian support, ask for the restoration of Prussian support of Pr

-The Prince of Wales attained his eighteenth year on the 9th, and is now of legal age to take the crown JOHN BROWN'S INVASION.

A VISIT TO JOHN BROWN.

BY A LADY. In going to Virginia, I thought I should satisfy my feelings of pity for the wounded prisoners and be hidden by Mrs. Child, who I heard was there. The name of a "Friend," who lives in Charlestown, was given me, and on our arrival my son and I went to sk him where Mrs. Child was stopping. He proved a most unfriendly "Friend." "Mrs. Child," he said, is not in the town. I should advise her to stay at home and attend to her domestic affairs. People had better stay in their own country. And," he added, if she came to my house, I would not receive her. "I rather think John Woolman would have done it," I replied. "I don't care what John Woolman would I know David Howells wouldn t," was his answer. All other persons to whom we spoke were civil.

On our way we spent a night at Harper's Ferry. In the parlor we heard a young lady describing to a gentleman the herrors of the night of terror. wished," she said, "I could shoot them all." Sh teld the story of poor Thompson, brought wounded into the hotel, followed by the infuriated people, protected for a time by Mr. Fonke's sister, at last dragged out and killed on the bridge. She said: "It was dreadful to drag him out so: but they did right to kill him. I would." The gentleman said, "Oh, no! you wouldn't." I asked, "Who killed him?" He said, "One of our citizens, Madam. He never would have done it, but was made furious because our Mayor was shot down in the street." I expressed my horror of the deed. It must be some comfort to his young widow to know that a brave woman, at great risk to berself, tried to save him. They threatened her, but she would not leave him. I seked the gentleman if he believed Brown insane. He said, "No; his plans were too perfect to leave any doubt of the clearness of his mind." The landlord said the same. And certainly the place was wisely chosen. Part of the Blue Ridge rises directly from the town on the north. It is said that in these mountains there are wonderful caves; and if, as he intended, he had succeeded in fortifying himself there, slaves could have escaped to him, and it would have been difficult to dislodge him. Care for the lives of his prisoners, whom he feared to take that cold night into the mountains, and the mistake in stopping the train, caused, as he explains, and as I heard others say at Harper's Ferry, all the shedding of blood. Let those who condemn him most be satisfied that his first-born sone by both his first and second wife were slain, and also his young son Oliver, of whom the mother says, "He was most like his father, caring most for learning of all our children." Let him, then, be forgiven for the unpremeditated horrors of that night at Harper's Ferry.

In Charlestown the Sheriff refused my application to see Mr. Brown. " Public opinion," he said, " is very much excited, in consequence of your coming here. ' Capt. B. does not wish to see any one," and, adding, 'My responsibilities are very great. If anything should occur in consequence of my granting you, or any one else, an interview. I should be censured by the whole community. I must, therefore, deny your request."

I sent Mr. Brown some linen, &c., which I had brought, and should have left Charlestown the next morning, but the Jailer and Mr. Sennott both assured me that Mr. Brown wished to see me. We therefore determined to wait. The hotel-keeper was very kind, and we waited over two days. But the Sheriff remained inexorable, though he knew Mr. Brown's wishes. At last Mr. G. Sennott got an order from the Judge of the Court, for my admission.

With gifts from the woods and the garden, we went in through the door of iron bars, which turned with a grating sound on its heavy hinges. On the two beds were Brown and Stephens. Both were glad to see ns. Stephens is a pleasant-looking young man, though very pale from his wounds. One who knew him well has said of him, "I never knew any man try so hard to be good." No picture I have seen gives an idea of Mr. Brown's noble bearing, of his fine expression, and the peculiar light of his eyes. I was reminded at once by his appearance of Motley's description of William of Orange; no better one can be given of Brown:

Orange; no better one can be given of Brown:

"In person he was above the middle hight, perfectly well made and sinewy, but rather spare than stout. His eyes, hair, beard, and complexion were brown. His head was small, symmetrically shaped, combining the alertness and compactness characteristic of the soldier with the capacious brow, furrowed prematurely with the horizontal lines of thought, denoting the statesman and the sage. His physical appearance was, therefore, in harmony with his organization, which was of antique model. Of his moral qualities, the most prominent was his piety. He was more than anything clsen religious his piety. He was more than anything elsea religious man. From his trust in God, he ever derived support and consolation in the darkest hours. Implicitly re-lying upon Almighty wisdom and goodness, he looked danger in the face with a constant smile, and endured increasant labors and trials with a screnity which seemed

more than human.

"His firmness was allied to his piety. His constancy in bearing the whole weight of struggles as unequal as men have ever undertaken, was the theme of admira-

ion even to his enemies."

Between Mr. Brown and his juiler there has grown up a most friendly feeling. Capt. Avis, who is too brave to be afraid to be kind, has done all he could for the prisoners, and been cursed accordingly. Still their condition was very cheerless, and Mr. Brown was in the same clothes in which he was taken. A cloth under his bend was much stained with blood from a still open wound. It was hard for me to forget the presence of the jailer (I had that morning seen his advertisement of " 50 negroes for sale"); but I soon lost all thought of him in listening to Mr. Brown, who spoke at once of his plans and of his failure. Twenty years he has labored, and waited, and suffered, and at last he believed that the time of fulfillment had come. But he failed; and, instead of being free on the mountains, strong to break every yoke, and let the oppressed go free, he was shorn of his strength, with prison walls about him. "But," he said, "I do not now reproach myself; I did what I could." I said, "The Lord often leads us in strange ways." "Yes," he answered; "and I think I cannot now better serve the cause I love so much than to die for it: and in my death I may do more than in my life." A pleasant smile came over his face when I exclaimed, "Then you will be our martyr!" I continued, "I want to ask one question for others, not for myself-Have you been actuated by any feeling of revenge!" He raised his head, and gave me a surprised look; then, laying back, he answered slowly, but firmly, "I am not conscious of hav-ing had a feeling of the kind. No, not in all the wrong done to me and my family in Kansas, have I had a feeling of revenge." "That would not sustain you now," I remarked. "No, indeed," he replied quickly, I sleep peacefully as an infant; or, if I am wakeful, glorious thoughts come to me, entertaining my mind."
Presently be added, "The sentence they have pronounced against me did not disturb me in the least; it is not the first time I have looked death in the face." It is not the hardest thing for a brave man to die, I answered: "but how will it be in the long days be fore you, shut up here? If you can be true to yourself in all this, how glad we shall be." "I cannot say," he responded, "what weakness may come over me; but I do not believe I shall deny my Lord and Master, Jesus Christ; and I should if I denied my principles against Slavery. Why, I preach against it all the time -Capt. Avis knows I do." The jailer smiled, and said "yes." We spoke of those who, in times of trial, forgot themselves, and he said, "There seems to be ust that difference in people; some can bear more than others, and not suffer so much. He had been through all kinds of hardships, and did not mind them." My son remarked that it was a great thing to have confidence in one's own strength. "I did not mean to say that," was the answer. "It is only a constitutional difference, and I have been trained to hardships." When twelve years old, he went with his father to furnish the American army with cattle. This had led him far away from home, and subjected him to much exposure. Sometimes he slept in graveyards, but without any

Indians. "But," he added, smiling, "I have one unconquerable weakness; I have always been more afraid of being taken into an evening party of ladies and gentlemen than of meeting a company of men with guns." I think he is still more afraid of the giving of trouble to others. He seems to me to be purely un-selfish, and in all that he has done to have never thought of bimself, but always of others. In a noble letter to his wife, which I brought away with me, be entreats his " dear wife and children, every one never in all your trials, forget the poor that cry, and bim that bath none to help him."

While he was talking to me with the deepest solicitude of his family, the rabble, ever hanging about the Court-House and prison, fearful that we were plotting treason inside, became restless. The Sheriff was frightened, and called the Jailer, so that I had only a moment to speak to Stephens, and to say farewell to Mr. Brown, who stood up to take leave of us, saying, "The Lord will bless you for coming here."

There was, I learned afterward, an angry mob outside the inil, but I did not see it. In a moment we reached the hotel, and at once recorded all we could remember of this interesting visit. That night there were rumors of an attack on the jail, and it was thought best that I should not repeat my visit. The Jailer said to my son, "Your mother can write, and send him books and bymns. He is an intelligent and a religious man, and will appreciate them."

But the evening before we left Charlestown a telegram announced to me that Mrs. Brown was in Philadelphia; and I was anxious therefore to have another nterview with her husband. In the morning I sent for the Judge, who went with us to the prison door. Mr. Brown was sitting at the table, where he had just finished a letter to his wife, and a note to me. He looked better, and brighter, and happier than at my first visit, and Stephens also looked better. The old man said little except about his family, whom he commend-

ed to the kindness of good people. On our return, we saw boys, at Harper's Ferry, going about and selling pikes and other things, which they had found in the school house in the woods. I said to the landlord, "It is not right for these boys to sell, on their own account, this property of Mr. Brown's: his family will need all he leaves." are not his property," was the reply; "but that of the Abolitionists, who furnished the money to buy them, and who sent him here. Let them come and claim

To Mrs. Brown, it was a great comfort to see one who could give her direct information in regard to the condition of her husband. Hearing that he had lost the clothes she last made for him, she went at once to work to prepare others. When these last kind offices were done, and the little trunk packed, and she felt "it is the last time," her sorrow, for a season, overwhelmed her. Since then, she has received a letter from her husband (of which I am permitted to send you a copy), in answer to one telling him of a plan to have his two daughters educated in Mr. Weld's school, at Eagleswood. Half the money for this purpose has been given, for the first year, by two gentlemen.

The home of the unfortunate family is in a region of almost perpetual frost, where they cannot earn a living. It has been proposed to raise money to purchase for them a small farm, somewhere in a milder climate. If we cannot get the father out of his prison, let us, at least, bring his wife and children out of the wilder-

CHARLESTOWN, Jefferson Co., Va., Lifth Nov., 1859.

My Dear Wife: I write you in answer to a most kind letter of Nov. 13, from dear Mrs. Spring. I owe her ten thousand thanks; for her kindness to you particularly and more especially than for what she has done, and is doing in a more direct way for me personally. Although I feel grateful for every expression of kindness or expensive towards me, yet nothing can. of kindness or sympathy towards me, yet nothing can so effectually minister to my comfort as acts of kindness done to relive the wants, or mitigate the sufferings of my poor distressed family. May God Almighty and their own consciousness be their eternal rewarders. I am exceedingly rejoiced to have you make the activations and the proposed to have you make the activations and the proposed to have you make the activations.

ministered to the wants of myself and of my poor sons, both in sickness and in health. Only last year I lay sick for quite a number of weeks with them, and was cared for by all, as though I had been a most affectionate brother or father. Tell her that I ask God to bless, and reward them all forever. "I was a stranger, and they took me in." It may possibly be that would like to copy this letter, and send it to her home. It so, by all means, let her do so. I would write them if I had the power.

Now let me say a word about the effort to educate our dans here. I am no longerable to provide means to help

dang hters. I am no longerable to provide means to help towards that object, and it, therefore, becomes me not to dictate in the matter. I shall gratefully submit the direction of the whole thing to those whose generosity may lead them to undertake in their behalf, while I give anew a little expression of my own choice respecting it. You, my wife, perfectly well know that I have always expressed a decided preference for a very plain but perfectly practical education for both sons and daughters. I do not mean an education so very miserable as that you and I received in early life; nor as some of our children enjoyed. When I say plain but practical, I mean enough of the learning of the schools to enable them to transact the common business of life comfortably and respectably, together with that thorough training to good business habits which best prepares both men and women to be useful though poor, and to meet the stern Reallities of life with a good grace. You well know that I always claimed that the music of the know that I always claimed that the music of the broom, washtub, needle, spindle, loom, ax, scyths, hoe, flail, &c., should first be learned at all events, and that of the piano, &c., AFTERWARDS. I put them in that order as most conducive to health of body and mind; and for the obvious reason, that after a life of some experience and of much observation, I have found en as well as ten men who have made

some experience and of much observation, I have found ten komen as well as ten men who have made their mark in lite Right, whose early training was of that plain, practical kind, to one who had a more popular and fashionable early training. But enough of that.

Now, in regard to your coming here: If you feel sure that you can endure the trials and the shock, which will be unavoidable (if you come), I should be most glad to see you once more; but when I think of your being insulted on the road, and perhaps schile kere, and of only seeing your wretchedness made complete, I shrink from it. Your composure and fortitude of mind may be quite equal to it all; but I am in dreadful doubt of it. If you do come, defer your journey till about the 27th or 28th of this month. The seenes which you will have to pass through on coming here will be anything but those you now pass, with tender, kind-hearted friends, and kind faces to meet you every where. Do consider the matter well before you make the plunge. I think I had better say no more on this most painful subject. My health improves a little; my mind is very tranquil, I may say joyons, and I continue to receive every kind attention that I have any possible need of. I wish you to send copies of all my letters to all our poor children. What I write to one must answer for all, till I have more strength. I get numerous kind letters from friends in almost all directions, to encourage me to "be of good" chace," and I still have, as I tent. "the execution." write to the strength. I get numerous kind letters from friends in almost all directions, to encourage me to "be of good "cheer," and I still have, as I trust, "the peace of "God to rule in my heart." May God, for Christ's sake, ever make his face to shine on you all.

Your affectionate husband,

JOHN BROWN.

From a subsequent letter, dated November 24, 1

make the following extract: make the following extract:

I have very many interesting visits from Pro-Slavery persons, almost daily, and I endeavor to improve them faith ully, plainly and kindly. I do not think I ever enjoyed life better than since my confinement here. For this I am indebted to Infinite grace, and kind letters from friends from different quarters. I wish I could only know that all my poor family were as composed and as happy as I. I think nothing but the Christian religion could ever make any one so composed.

My willing soul would stay, In such a frame as this. JOHN BROWN.

THE DAY OF EXECUTION. To the Editor of The N. Y. Tribune. Sin: To-day the noblest manhood in America swings

off on the gallows of the felon.

The day will be a day of tears, and grouns, and prayers, to tens of thousands through this broad country. It will become the opening of an era in the moral history of our nation. No one can easier superstitions fear, and in forests a hundred miles from know how deeply the religious sense of the people-human habitations, surrounded by hestile English and especially of the descendants of New-Englanders—is

touched by this stern tragedy. An old man, living un-der the abiding presence of God, feeling the whip and chain of oppression to the slave even as to hunself, with a calm conviction of eternal duty, throws himself, with a calm conviction of eternal duty, throws himself, his sone, his means, everything, in desperate assault at this gigantic system of wrong—hoping it may be, if success favored the daring venture, to liberate some hundred siaves, and retreat with them over the border, or if defeat came, as was more probable, to bear the stripes, and the prison, and death, even as so many thousands of them had done, in order to testify his undying harred of injustice, and his sympathy with the wrongest.

wronged.

Of course it was an iliegal enterprise; it was fool-hardy and desperate (though not so desperate as appears); it was fanatical, as all great enterprises are; it risked life and all on one cast, and no one can mourn the death which has followed. It was an almost insane effort—not to excite a servile insurrection, for this both Cook's confession and Brown's honest speech deny—but to damage the Slave Power by running off a large body of slaves.

It is not for all this, that the sons of the Puritans everywhere feel so intensely with the brave old man.

They would not necessarily believe in such modes of attack or this termory. They recard unsurcessful and symmetric the control of the c

they would not necessarily beneve in scenarious tack on this tyranny. They regard unsuccessful and spasmodic efforts at rising among the slaves, as they would similar efforts now in Hungary or Naples—foolish and unadvisable, because certain to fail. But they, and all everywhere who respect nobleness and courage, cannot but look with wonder and love on this old man, going down himself to bear the burden of them who are in bonds—accepting wounds and chains, receiving reproach and insult, and taking the murderer's disgraceful death as cheerfully as if it were a crown of honor, for the sake of the poor, dispirited,

rgotten slave.

They behold him mild, courteous and humane to the last; with a sublime Faith and a Cristian spirit of hu self-devotion, which makes that prison-cell to their

ble, self-devotion, which makes that prison-cell to their eyes, holier than consecrated chapel.

John Brown is the personification of the deepest Northern conscience against Slavery. He reveals the awful carnestness, and the sublimity of that sentiment against this wrong, which politicians have been striving so long to wheedle and to manage. Be assured, Sir, that there are thousands of men in this country, ready and glad to swing off on the gallows, if they could see that it could possibly break the fetters of this gigantic conversation.

gigantic oppression.

It is all this, and not certainly or necessarily a sympathy with the means employed, which makes the religious masses of the Free States feel so intensely with the brave old man.

And yet they do not mourn for him. No! he risked the descriptions with the description of the de

And yet they do not mourn for him. No! he risked the desperate essay; he chose the death of sacrifice for the tens of thousands of the wronged who had suffered far more than he.

The eye of Christian faith, too, changes the scene. The old and scarred body, hanging on the murderer's rope; the chains; the jeers of the brutal crowd; the curses of the excited soldiery; the scorn of the rich and the powerful pass away, and the welcome of that innumerable crowd of unseen witnesses, who have died for truth's and righteousness' sake, and of Him who hath hallowed self-sacrifice for the poor and wronged for ever more, seem to begird the humble sufferer, as he leaves the earth.

John Brown on a Virginia gallows, and John Brown

sufferer, as he leaves the earth.

John Brown on a Virginia gallows, and John Brown entering the Christian Heaven, might be a fruitful theme for dramatic contrast in the pulpit.

No; the people do not so much sorrow for him, though this broad Union holds not a more noble man-

though this broad Union holds not a more noble man-hood or a more religious soul.

We have known Lim personally, and many of his family, and we can testify if it were needed) that a man so imbued with the Divine presence, so living under a sense of eternal things, and so filled with the wrongs of the oppressed, and burning so to struggle for them, is seldom to be met with in this world. We do not believe him to be insane, any more than Cromwell or our own Puritan forefathers were insane. He

was a Puritan of the Puritans.

It is an immense loss for the country to lose such a manhood. But it is not this, which this day is forcing manbood. But it is not this, which this day is forcing out greams and prayers from so many in every corner of the fand; it is that we, the freeborn of the nation, the descendants of those who periled everything for Liberty, should live in a country where the only thing which can legally be given to the highest nobleness—courage and Christianity—is the gallows!—that the purest friend of impartial Liberty America has ever known should have no reward but the murderer's haller!—that we are responsible for this, and we have the disgrace. It is this that burns the soul, and makes one loathe the very soil on which such iniquity can be perpetrated.

Perpetrated.

But John Brown cannot die. The memory of that noble spirit will live for many a century in the heart of the Northern people. Such an utter spirit of sacrifice has already enobled the whole generation, and will continue to do so. The gallows loses its disgrace

when it holds such men.

That Providence which always works in the affairs of men, but which we do not siways see, has been of men, but which we do not siways see, has been especially revealed in all the circumstances of this affair. An old man, following an almost insane inspiration, strikes a feeble blow at an empire of tyranny, and to the surprise of men, it trembles to the base. Not all the moral movements, or rabid assaults, or calm arguments. the moral movements, or rabid assaults, or calm argu-ments, or philosophic investigations of the century have done so much to render Slavery ridiculous and unsafe, as this hair-brained assault of a fanatical Puritan. If he had aroused an insurrection from Virginia to Texas, he could not have done half so much.

Nothing in our history has ever awoke the religious sentiment of the North on the question like this foolish enterprise.

sterprise.

A thousand things might simply have made Brown's

A thousand things might simply have made Brown's outbreak ridiculous; but it seems as if everything in the folly and in the wisdom of men had combined to present Brown's spirit, words, and death as a grand tragedy, revealing the spirit of Freedom and of

What things are before us no man can say. Whether the country can bear no more; or whether the South, really alarmed, will commence a more rational and human course with regard to this great evil; or whether this is only the opening of that bloody and bitter collision which shall go on between the two systems, until one is prostrated—who that is wise can receive!

The 2d December is a day which our history will not easily forget.

A VOICE FROM CONNECTICUT, UPON THE EXECUTION OF JOHN BROWN.

After an Anti-Slavery lecture at Canterbury, Conn. by the Rev. H. T. Cheever, the following reso were unanimously adopted by the meeting:

Were unanimously adopted by the meeting:

Resolved, That while, in the judgment of this meeting, the anthor of the late unsuccessful attempt in behalf of slaves in Virginia is by no means justified in that undertaking, because there is a more excellent way for accomplishing the end be had in view, yet we are entirely satisfied that he has meant nothing and has done nothing worthy of death; and we think that the facts efficied in the course of his indecentity horried trial, all going to show a certain degree of insanity on the part of the prisoner, would make his execution, at the present time, both an injustice and a mistake.

Resolved further. That in our judgment, from all the facts we can gather, the terrible wromes and bereavements suffered by this man at the hands of the Slave Power in Kansas, acting powerfully upon his natural sense of justice and his deeply regigious nature, and leading him to devote himself to the work of liberating slaves, have resulted, along with his actual success at similar efforts before, in Missouri, in fastening open his mind the deliver the oppressed.

Resolved, also, That while the wrongs and sufferings of John

insion that he was raised up by God, as snother Moses, to deliver the oppressed.

Resolved, also, That while the wrongs and sufferings of John Brown have long had our pity and indignation, and his honest, courageous, and Christian bearing through all the trying scenes of his capture, imprisonment, interrogation, and trial, has won our highest admiration and regard, the issue of his impracticable undertaking in Virginia convinces us that the only way to prevent the recurrence of such disastrous attempts in other parts of the South, with all their bloody issues, is for Christian Churches at once and earnestly to undertake the deliverance of the sneakeyd, as the legitimate work of Christianity, by means purely moral and peaceful.

Also, at a public meeting at Lisbon, in the same State, on the 22d Nov., the following was voted as the sense of the assembly:

sense of the assembly:

Besolved, That as a gortle of the Christian people of the State of Cennecticut, to which we think it will be an equal honor years bence to have given birth to the misguided but Christian heto, John Brown, as to have been the chosen home of the Revolutionary parriot, Israel Futnam, we would respectfully represent to our brethren, the authorities and people of Virginia, the great danger to be apprehended, in our view, from the threatened execution of the man whom they have now in their power, and we shall exmestly pray find that an act which we helicay to be so unjust, and which we are satisfied would be so fatal to peace between the North and the South, may be grevaried.

MRS. BROWN AND HER FAMILY. INTERESTING PARTICULARS. Correspondence of The National Anti-Slavery Standard

Correspondence of The National Anti-Stavery Standard.

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 28, 1839.

While much has been said—though none too muchof the heroism and nobility of soul of Captain John Brown, it is not known, as it ought to be, that his wife and children have been distinguished in a large measure by the same characteristies. It has been my privilege, for most of the past week, to be an immate of the same house with Mrs. Brown; and I must say, not only for myself, but for those who have shared with me in the privilege, that the more we have seen of her, and the more we have learned, through her, of the rest of the family, the more we have been impressed in favor of them all.

As for Mrs. Brown herself, she is just the woman to be the wife of the Hero of Harper's Ferry. Stalwart of frame and strong in native intellect, she is imburd with the same estigious faith, and her heart overflows with the same sympathies. Her bearing in her present distress is admirable. She is brave without meaning in the bands of the Extive Committee as a perpetual trust fund, the proc whereof are to be devoted to keeping in repair home of Webster at Marshfield.

—Capt. Davidoff, of the Russian Navy, is in N York, to secure the contraction of some gun-boat the Amoor. Capt. Schwartz, second in commant the General Admiral, is also here, and Lieut. Depthe Engineers, who will examine the fortification of the mystery, and have waited some time expectation of seeing it noticed by those more direction of the mystery, and have waited some time expectation of seeing it noticed by those more direction of the mystery, and have waited some time expectation of seeing it noticed by those more direction of the mystery, and have waited some time expectation of seeing it noticed by those more direction of the mystery, and have waited some time expectation of seeing it noticed by those more direction of the mystery, and have waited some time expectation of seeing it noticed by those more direction of seeing it noticed by those more direction of the mystery,

not only accrue to the benefit, but precipitate the triumph of the cause they have all had so much at heart. Absorbed by the great events that are passing before her, and apparently unconscious that she is an object of observation, her demeaner is marked by unrible mement she learned how tenacionsly she had grasped the shadow of one. Strong soul as she is allow the same of the shadow of one. Strong soul as she is, she was overwhelmed by the surges of her grief; and who could comfort her! I think we all felt that we were honored and blessed in being permitted to be near one made sacred by such grief, in that solemn hour. She has sources of strength which the world knows not of, and they have never failed her, and never will. She is never so unnerved that she would save ler husband's life (were it possible) by a mean or wicked act. It is delightful to bear the quiet, matter-of-course way in which she says, when a gleam of hope had fallen on her heart from the report that a case of insanity might be made out, 'But I couldn't say, if I were called 'upon that my husband was insune, even to save his 'life; because he wasn't.' As if the utterance of an untruth were a natural as well as a moral impossibility to her. Oh! she's a glorious soul, living the heroism of which poets sing."

JOHN BROWN MEETINGS .- Public meetings are to be held in many places to-day for exercises suited to the tragic event by which it will be marked in the annals of history. The meeting in this city will be held in the Church of the Puritans, during the time of the execution, and in the evening. In Philadelphia the Rev. W. Furness, Lucretia Mott, Mary Grew and others are advertised to speak in National Hall. In Rochester the people are invited to assemble in Corinthian Hall, to hear Parker Pillsbury, the Rev. Abram Pryne, and others. In Paterson, at some hour of the day, Dr. Cheever is to deliver an address. In Boston there will be a meeting at Tremont Temple. Wendell Phillips will probably be one of the speakers.
At all these gatherings contributions will no doubt be taken for the benefit of John Brown's family.

JOHN BROWN ITEMS.

UNITED STATES TROOPS TO. ATTEND THE EXECUTION.—We hear that orders have gone from the War Department directing four companies of United States troops, including artillery, to proceed from Fortress Monroe (Old Point Comfort) to Charlestown, Va., to participate in the preservation of the peace there on the occasion of the execution of Brown on the day after to-morrow. Col. Robert Lee (who was in command of the United States forces at Harper's Perry, it will be remembered), is said to have left this city yesterday afternoon under orders to take the command of these troops.

AREAD OF GOV. WISE.—In spite of Gov. Wise, we think we have made arrangements to secure a full report of the execution of Brown—having engaged two reporters, belonging to military companies that are now at Charlestown. If the Governor can find out who they are, he can have the benefit of the discovery. Should they be on the outer guard, we shall regret having failed to provide them with a telescope and ear trumpet, which may prove necessary.

[Pitteborgh Dispatch.]

It appears, by a private letter in The Cincinnati Commercial, that some of the Wheeling people are not very complacently regarding the fact that while they have no interest in sustaining Slavery, but much in extinguishing it in Virginia, they must share the expense of all the military foolery about Charlestown and Hasper's Ferry. Harper's Ferry.

EXCITEMENT IN TALBOT COUNTY.—On Sunday last an incendiary letter was picked up in St. Michael's, which purports to give the outlines of an extended insurrectionary movement in Maryland and Virginia. It states the very improbable fact that over 12,000 men are engaged in the crusade, who can instantly recognize each other by a look in the eyes whenever they meet. The plot cotemplates the capture of the City of Baltimore by the aid of 40,000 men from the North, the time to be fixed by a State Convention of the crusaders to be held in this city. The name and date of the letter were both torn off. This ridiculous document crented great excitement among the good people of Talbot. Patrols were immediately formed in the St. Michael's district, and a strong guard placed in Easton on Sunday night. A public meeting of the citizens of the county took place in the Court-House at Easton yesterday afternoon, to take into consideration the exting state of affairs, but we have not learned the result of their delibrations. [Baltimore Rep., Nov. 30. cult of their delibrations. (Baltimore Rep., Nov. 30.

A STRAY " SECRETARY OF STATE."

Under this heading, The Mobile Daily Tribune has the following in reference to Richard Realf, who was elected Secretary of State of the Provisional Government organized at Brown's Convention at Chatham,

ment organized at Brown's Convention at Chatham, Canada West:

Mr. Richard Realf, we understand, is an Englishman by birth, who figured in the Kansas troubles as an active member of the Anti-Slavery party, acted as aide-de-camp to the notorious Gen. Lane, and was elected a member of the Topeka Legislature. Subsequently to the proceedings of the "Convention" above set forth, he returned to England, and figured theroduring the last Winter as a lecturer on Temperance; perhaps also—though we have no positive evidence of the fact—on Abolitionism.

Sometime during the past Spring or Summer, we think, Mr. Realf made his appearance in New-Orleans—how, or in what capacity, we know not. Here, after personal observation of the institutions of the South, he renounced Abolitionism, and became a zeal-ous advocate and defender of Slavery. He also became a convert to the doctrines of the Roman Catholic Church, was baptized into that faith, and prefixed the name of "John" to that of "Richard." writing him-

came a convert to the doctrines of the Roman Cathone Church, was baptized into that faith, and prefixed the name of "John" to that of "Richard." writing himself thenceferward, "John Richard Realf."

Mr. Realf then became a constant and copions contributor to the columns of The Catholic Standard," both in poetry and prose, as the readers of that journal during the past Sunmer will, no doubt, remember. He wrote with considerable vigor, and, although a novice, engaged in controversy with learned and experienced divines on theological questions.

Mr. Realf was in this city and vicinity for several weeks during the months of September and October, continuing his literary labors at the same time. He made no secret of his antecedents in connection with Kansas, but declared his views, principles and feelings on the subject entirely changed, and appeared sincerely desirous of undoing whatever mischief he might have been instrumental in effecting while working with the Abolitionists. He was an agreeable, well-informed young main, and made a favorable impression upon such of our citizens as formed his acquaintance.

Some time between the 1st and the 19th of October, Mr. Realf left Mobile for New-Orleans. He arrived there, was seen to enter a hack or cab, and, as we are informed, has not been heard of since. His acquaintances here have felt much anxiety respecting his fate, and since the disclosures above set forth with regard to his former connection with Brown and his associates, an additional, mystery has been thrown around the transaction.

The sudden disappearance of Mr. Realf so short a

an additional, mystery has been thrown around the transaction.

The sudden disappearance of Mr. Realf so short a time previous to the outbreak at Harper's Ferry, might naturally attach same suspicion to his course. For our own part, however, we have no doubt that his professions were truthful and his recautation of Abelitionism sincere. There is ample evidence in the confidential correspondence between Brown and his other confederates, lately brought to light, to prove that Realf had abandoned them and held no connection or intercourse with them after his return from England. Several passages in these papers show that his friends were under the impression that he had died on the way out, and this was the belief of Brown himself, founded on the fact that he had heard nothing of him after sailing. Morcover, his course, while in New-Orleans and Mobile, was just the opposite of what it would have been likely to be if he had entertained any sinister designs.

signs.
We think there is strong reason to believe that Realf

We think there is strong reason to believe that Realf may have been the author of the anonymous letter addressed to Secretary Floyd, and that he was restrained by his pledge of secresy, as well perhaps as by fear of the consequences to himself, from any more direct revelations.

His mysterious disappearance in New-Orleans may have been occasioned by some intimation of the approaching outbreak and a conviction that, in case of the exposure of his own connection with the foolish plot organized in Canada, no explanation or subsequent recantation would insure his immunity from the consequences.

quences.

In any case, we should like to see some further efucidation of the mystery, and have waited some time in
expectation of seeing it noticed by those more directly
cognizant of the circumstances. Thus far, however, is
seems to have escaped the attention of the New-Orleans

-The Webster Statue Committee met on Saturday, n Boston, to close up their affairs. There appeared to be remaining in the bands of the Treasurer a balance

of \$6,500, which was placed in the hands of the Executive Committee as a perpetual trust fund, the proceeds whereof are to be devoted to keeping in repair the home of Webster at Marshfield. -Capt. Davidoff, of the Russian Navy, is in New-

York, to secure the construction of some gun-boats for the Amoor. Capt. Schwartz, second in command of the General Admiral, is also here, and Lieut. Dep, of